DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 176 794 IR 007 761

AUTHOR Jeffries, Stephen R.
TITLE A Model for Service to the Elderly by the Small/Medium Sized Public Library.
PUB DATE 77
NOTE 83p.; Submitted in lieu of thesis, MS in studies in aging, Texas State University
AVAILABLE FROM Center for Studies in Aging, North Texas State University, P.O. Box 13438, NTSU Station, Denton, Texas 76203 ($2.50)

EDRS PRICE MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Library Programs; Library Role; *Library Services; *Needs Assessment; *Older Adults; *Public Libraries; Resource Materials; Responsibility

ABSTRACT

Citing the American Library Association's 1964 statement of libraries' responsibilities to the aging, this paper presents a needs assessment of the elderly and suggests methods by which public libraries can attempt to meet some of these needs, e.g., barrier-free design, programs, materials, and services. The needs assessment of older users provides background material on 10 areas: marital status and living arrangements of older persons, economic security, work and retirement, health, education, dependency, nutrition, consumer fraud, recreation, and leisure. A guide for library service covers such topics as obtaining board support, surveying user needs, collecting and disseminating information, publicizing programs, implementing programs, monitoring and evaluating services, and dealing with possible problems. In addition to a bibliography for each chapter, a list of how-to resources provides sources of funding, a model core collection, specialized materials, additional bibliographic sources, and relevant organizations, associations, and agencies. A general bibliography is also included. (PM)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED176794

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

A MODEL FOR SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY BY THE SMALL/MEDIUM SIZED PUBLIC LIBRARY

by

Stephen R. Jeffries

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE ONLY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Mary Margaret Kelly

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

IR007761

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

LIST OF TABLES iv

Chapter

I. HISTORICAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY 1

II. RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO THE ELDERLY 12

III. NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF THE ELDERLY 17

Marital Status and Living Arrangements of Older Persons
Economic Security
Work and Retirement
Health
Education
Dependency
Nutrition
Consumer Fraud
Recreation and Leisure

IV. A MODEL FOR SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY BY THE SMALL/MEDIUM SIZED PUBLIC LIBRARY. 31

A Guide for Library Service to the Elderly

V. SOURCES AND RESOURCES 55

How-to Resources
Additional Sources of Funding
Core Collection
Bibliography of Bibliographies
Specialized Materials
Organizations, Associations, and Government Agencies

VI. CONCLUDING REMARKS. 74

BIBLIOGRAPHY 77

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
I.	Relative Priority Among Age Groups for Program Development by Public Libraries	6
II.	Estimated Maximum Potential Demand for Library Services if Available in Accordance with Population Distribution	7

CHAPTER I

HISTORICAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY

When I cry, who listens?
No one hears me crying
Down at the grass roots
Where you will find me

I am an old man.
I worked hard
In steel mills, lumber camps,
Beet fields and railroads.

I helped to build this country
Don't throw me out
Like an old car in a junk yard.

When I cry, listen!
I am an old man. (9, p. 15)

This poem "When I Cry" was written by Hilda W. Smith--a delegate to the 1970 White House Conference on Aging--as she listened to the discussion in the section on the elderly poor. Today she is approaching her ninth decade of life.

This poem suggests the theme of this study and the reason for its undertaking. "When I cry, who listens?" (9, p. 15) speaks of the twenty-one million plus elderly within American society who have been unseen and unheard. But there is among them a growing awareness that they "worked hard" and "helped to build this country," and they

are now beginning to say, "When I cry, listen!" (9, p. 15), "for even though we are old men and women we are proud of our accomplishments, and this country owes us recognition for our contributions." They are beginning to be heard.

Hilda Smith is being heard because, among other things, she is a writer and knows the power and persuasion of words, written and spoken. The keeper of the word--thoughts, ideas, concepts, philosophies, theories, information--in any developed society is the library. In the United States this consists of over 7,100 public libraries and 4,900 branch libraries of city, county, and regional systems (4, p. 308). While these figures by no means include all of the libraries within the United States, they are the ones to which the great majority of people have access. Consequently, these public libraries should be providing the information, materials, services, and programs to the public in general (including the elderly). If the elderly are beginning to be heard and recognized as a group, to what extent are public libraries aware of them?

While service to adults has always been an integral part of public library service, it was not until the late 1940's and early 1950's that the public library became aware of the educational needs of older Americans and of the need for special services to elderly library users.

As far as could be discovered, the first publication by a librarian (or library student in this case) on work with the aged was done by Nathaniel Stewart, who in 1938 as a student at the Peabody Library School, wrote his thesis on the subject Library Service to the Old. A paper based on this work was published in the March 15, 1938 issue of Library Journal. In this paper Stewart deplored the lack of library services for the aged.

> Perhaps the most striking testimony to the fact that library facilities for the old has never been considered as a phase of library service is to be found in a thorough examination of the basic and definitive bibliography of library science from 1876 through 1936, Cannon's Bibliography of Library Economy and the successive volumes of Library Literature. Quite astonishingly, not a single concrete reference is found for library service to the old, neither in the classification of institutional libraries nor in the category of library work with special classes (8, p. 219).

The last paragraph of Stewart's article sums up the scarcity of knowledge regarding the problems of old age and the responsibilities of libraries to the elderly.

> When the subject of mental hygiene of the old comes into its own, as have the psychology of childhood and the psychology of adolescence, an entirely new panorama will be envisaged. The genesis and the crux of the problem of libraries and the old will be determined with the development of the study of mental hygiene of the old. When we have come to the point where we shall regard old age as a period of life rather than as a bodily condition, only then will librarians and educators become aware of their responsibilities in sustaining the mental and intellectual life of the old (8, p. 219).

The most extensive study, and a landmark study, of library service to the elderly was initiated in July, 1971, and the ensuing report was the National Survey of Library Services to the Aging. The survey was done under a grant from the Higher Education Act, Title II-B which was given to the Cleveland Public Library and conducted by the firm of Booz, Allen, and Hamilton. The purpose of the study was to determine the scope of library service provided to persons over sixty-five by public libraries and libraries at state and federal institutions. Library services were defined to exclude those routine services such as book lists, but did include programs and services which were offered specifically for the aging population or in which at least fifty per cent of the participants were sixty-five years of age or older. The libraries identified were surveyed by questionnaire (sent to three hundred ninety public libraries with a return of two hundred sixty-six, and eighty institutional libraries with a return of thirty-three) and/or field interview. The period selected for study was the decade from 1961, the year of the first White House Conference on Aging, through 1971, the year of the second Conference.

The final report presented findings on 1) the scope, nature, and extent of library services to the aging, 2) financing library services to the aging, and 3) organizational and staff support for library services to the aging.

During the decade of the sixties, the survey argued that development of library services to the aging had been inhibited by the following factors:

> Lack of recognition of services to the aging in the federal, state, and local public library plans, programs, and organizational structures.
>
> Lack of adequate interest, awareness, and understanding by local communities and public libraries of the aging and the library's potential in meeting such needs.
>
> General financial stringencies facing most public institutions, including the public library, resulting in inadequate public and philanthropic funds for developing and testing new programs of service to the aging and providing adequate numbers and types of materials, such as large-print books.
>
> The need, in many localities, for improved or modernized facilities and equipment which accommodate group activities and special events for the aging (7, p. 448).

To illustrate this, during the sixties the major constraint on providing library services to the aging, as identified by librarians, was funding. Other major constraints on expansion of services to the aging as identified by librarians survey were: "available funds (indicated by 95 per cent), available staff (32 per cent), transportation equipment (10 per cent), interest on the part of the library (11 per cent), and interest in services among potential aging users (6 per cent) (2, pp. 146-147).

While "interest on the part of the library" rated a very low percentage as a restraint in providing library services to the aging, it is interesting to note in Table I

that among the public libraries participating in the study, the aging were most often ranked as the group receiving the lowest priority for program development.

TABLE I

RELATIVE PRIORITY AMONG AGE GROUPS FOR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES*

Age Group	First Priority Per Cent	Second Priority Per Cent	Third Priority Per Cent	Fourth Priority Per Cent
Children (6-12)	33	48	16	3
Young People (13-20)	6	21	43	29
Adults (21-64)	58	20	16	5
Aging (65+)	3	11	14	62

*Source: Booz, Allen & Hamilton survey of public libraries (2, p. 141).

Adults were ranked highest with first priority assigned by 58 per cent of the libraries. Next were children who were ranked second or first by 81 per cent. Third were young adults who were ranked third or higher by 70 per cent. At the bottom were the Aging, who received the lowest priority from 62 per cent, with only 3 per cent ranking the Aging on their first priority.

While some libraries work with community organizations concerned with the aging (their needs and problems), none of the libraries surveyed had conducted a formal evaluation of the potential demand among the aging for their services. Most services were started as a result of interest by key professional staff members or as a result of administrators' becoming aware of funds available through grants. Table II gives an indication of what the demand for several library services would be if available, as well as the actual number of elderly being served.

TABLE II

ESTIMATED MAXIMUM POTENTIAL DEMAND FOR LIBRARY SERVICES IF AVAILABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION*

	Maximum over-age use ratio by the aging	Aging in U.S.	Potential maximum demand by aging in U.S.	Actual number of aging served in U.S.	Percentage of potential demand met	Maximum unmet potential demand
Extension Services	20%	20,050,000	4,010,000	63,600	0.2%	3,946,400
Group Program	11%	20,050,000	2,205,500	19,600	0.9%	2,185,900
Special Material	10%	20,050,000	2,005,000	137,000	6.8%	1,868,000

*Source: Booz, Allen & Hamilton estimate (2,p. 92).

The above estimate for potential customer demand in Table II is based only on user records and not upon estimates of physically eligible aging persons. The 6.9 per cent figure for Percentage of Potential Demand Met appears rather high in comparison to the other percentages, but this is accounted for by the fact that the Special Materials figure includes 125,000 users serviced by the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped which is not a local library initiated service.

At the 1971 White House Conference on Aging, libraries had little impact. The only section in the White House Conference report that mentioned libraries was the education section. The report stated that "since older adults are increasingly advocating and participating in lifetime education, we recommend that the public library, because of its nearby neighborhood character, be strengthened and used as a primary community learning resource" (8, p. 12).

Eric Hoffer envisions old age as ". . . something to look forward to. It will be a time for lively study, of good conversation, for savoring and cultivating friendship; a time for the discovery of new interests and for the transmutation of experience and knowledge into wisdom" (3, p. 7). With this in mind, we might question to what extent the public libraries in the United States are providing the services and programs to make old age "something to look forward to."

The 1971 National Survey of Library Services to the Aging estimated that there were almost four million potential users among the aging whose need for extension services were unmet, more than two million whose need for group services were unmet, and almost two million whose need for special materials were unmet (5, pp. 404-405). Less than 20 per cent of the public library systems in the United States offer services specifically for the aging or services in which more than half of the participants are sixty-five or older (5, p. 404), possibly because the older persons seen are those who show little evidence of the problems resulting from the aging process. The study also reported that those public libraries considered to have relatively advanced programs for older adults were giving such programs a low priority in relation to program development activity for other age groups.

In the sample it was shown that less than 0.5 per cent of all funds were budgeted for specific programs for the aging. It also noted that state libraries gave the lowest priority for program development to the aging. The budgets of the state library agencies for programs for aging totaled less than $400,000 (including an undetermined amount of federal funds) in the decade between the two White House Conferences. Federal funds for libraries had rarely been allocated for service to the aging. Those programs that could be identified were estimated at less than two million

dollars since 1967. From 1967 to 1971, the Library Services and Construction Act had contributed an estimated $1.3 million, or 0.4 per cent of total appropriations. About $300,000, or 0.3 per cent of the total amount appropriated by the Older Americans Act had been directed to assisting library purposes during the same period (7, pp. 447-448).

In summarizing the library services to the aging in the decade of the sixties, the National Survey concluded:

> Library services to the aging have not developed at a pace consistent with the increase in the number of sixty-five plus persons in the nation and commensurate with the increase in national interest in the needs and problems of the aging.
>
> About two-thirds of the state library agencies and public libraries gave the aging the lowest priority for program development compared to other age groups in the population.
>
> Funds for services to the aging, as defined by this study, constitute less than one per cent of the budgets of state libraries and public libraries.
>
> Less than one per cent of the federal funds available for support of public libraries is allocated to services for the aging.
>
> Considerably less than one per cent of the available staff time of both state libraries and public libraries is devoted to providing library services to the aging, and less than 0.1 per cent of the public libraries and library systems in the United States provide training opportunities for work with the aging.
>
> Few libraries at state and federal institutions provide comprehensive service to aging residents (1, p. 415).

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Casey, Genevieve M., "Staffing Library Services to the Aging," Library Trends, XXI (January, 1973), 413-430.

2. Cleveland Public Library, National Survey of Library Services to the Aging Final Report, Washington, Bureau of Libraries and Educational Technology, 1971.

3. Ferstl, Kenneth I., "On Serving Older Americans: Some Perspectives for Librarians," Focus on Indiana Libraries, XXIX (Spring/Summer, 1975), 7+, 23.

4. Henderson, Jeanne J., editor, The Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 18th ed., New York, R. R. Bowker, 1973.

5. Reed, Emily W., "Library Programs and Activities: Serving the Aging Directly," Library Trends, XXI (January, 1973), 404-412.

6. Schmidt, Leslyn, "Report on White House Conference on Aging," AHIL Quarterly, XII (Spring/Summer, 1972), 12-19.

7. South, Jean-Anne and Henry Drennan, "The 1971 White House Conference on Aging," Library Trends, XXI (January, 1973), 441-458.

8. Stewart, Nathaniel, "Library Service to the Old," Library Journal, LXII (March 15, 1938), 218-222.

9. White, Hilda W., "The Elderly Poor 1971: Poems," AHIL Quarterly, XII (Spring/Summer, 1972), 15.

CHAPTER II

RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO THE ELDERLY

Official recognition of the library's responsibility to the aging was first enunciated in the document The Library's Responsibility to the Aging, which was adopted by the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association in 1964. It states:

> Aging has daily personal implications for every person in our society. The social, economic, and biologic problems resulting from the process of aging place responsibilities on all types of libraries, especially the public library. Libraries serve their communities by:
>
> 1. CONTRIBUTING to a positive attitude toward aging and the aged;
> 2. PROVIDING information and education on aging and its problems for professionals and laymen who work with this group, and for those who are retired;
> 3. FACILITATING the use of libraries by the aged through improved library design;
> 4. PROVIDING library service appropriate to the special needs of all the aged, including the homebound and the institutionalized;
> 5. UTILIZING the potential of the older person as a volunteer to reach his peers;
> 6. EMPLOYING older adults in programs designed specifically to serve the elderly;
> 7. INVOLVING the elderly in the planning process when designing special services and programs for older adults;
> 8. WORKING with other agencies and groups concerned with these needs and problems;
> 9. PROVIDING services and materials for those preparing for retirement; and
> 10. CONTINUALLY exploring ways of making these services more effective.

> Libraries should experiment with new materials and services as well as make continued use of traditional library materials and services; should maintain adequate standards; and should use innovative techniques and programs to reach the aged who can no longer be served effectively as a part of integrated adult services (1).

The Standards Committee of the Public Library Association wrote the Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems in 1966. The Standards were published and endorsed in 1967 by the American Library Association. These standards declared the public library's responsibility to the elderly.

> The library has the responsibility to serve all the people in the community. Many individuals and groups not having access to specialized libraries require special services that can be given through specialized materials and services of the public library. These individuals and groups include among others . . . the senior citizen and the retired (4, p. 33).

In 1969, Wayne State University sponsored a one-week institute on public library service to the aged, in cooperation with the Office of Education under the Higher Education Act, Title II-B. The institute was attended by library educators and librarians from large library systems and state libraries who had the responsibility for local library training. The participants developed a seventeen-point statement of principles for planners of library service to the aging. Some of the more pertinent points were:

1. The public library is responsible for serving the total community. Since older adults constitute a significant and growing portion of the population, librarians should provide meaningful service to them and recognize their needs in establishing budget priorities.

3. Although the needs and interests of older individuals vary widely, aging people as a group tend to share certain predictable characteristics which require specialized library services. Among these are: loss of socially accepted role, more leisure time, declining sensory acuity, declining vitality and other physical disabilities, reduced economic resources, less independence for personal development and a sense of insecurity and caution, and a learning capacity which continues at a slower rate. These characteristics should be recognized in planning library services for the aging.

6. Because many older people have limited mobility, the library has an obligation to serve nursing homes, residences for the aged, senior centers, and the homebound.

7. The library should provide materials in a wide variety of forms to meet the individual needs of the aging, such as large-print books, talking books, films, pictures, and equipment for the visually handicapped, such as prism glasses, magnifiers, etc.

8. Local libraries should provide information on the regional library for the blind and physically handicapped and should assist aging people in using its services.

9. The total library staff should be trained to serve the aging as adult individuals with special needs and characteristics.

13. Training for librarianship should include, in the curriculum, recognition of the special needs of the elderly.

15. The aging themselves, as well as community agencies serving the aging, should be involved in the planning of library programs for the aging.

16. The library should assemble reliable and up-to-date information on community services to the aging and should provide liaison and personal referral of aging patrons to appropriate community agencies.

17. The library should cooperate with other community agencies working with the aging and provide them with materials and services to complement their programs (5, p. 1000).

Most recently, in 1975, the Committee on Library Services to an Aging Population of the American Library Association, Reference and Adult Services Division, published tentative guidelines for libraries for providing the needed specialized services to the aging. These guidelines were "to encourage libraries to keep pace with the increased national interest in the special needs and problems of persons over age sixty-five and to respond to an expressed need by librarians who are seeking ways to initiate and develop services to this growing segment of the population" (2, p. 237).

The responsibility of libraries to the elderly has been clearly established and defined by the publications cited. What must follow is a stronger and more determined commitment on the part of librarians to make the responsibility a reality.

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. American Library Association. Adult Services Division, The Library's Responsibility to the Aging, Chicago, American Library Association, 1964.

2. American Library Association. Reference and Adult Services Division. Committee on Library Services to an Aging Population, "Guidelines for Library Service to an Aging Population," RQ, III (Spring, 1975), 237-239.

3. Casey, Genevieve M., "Public Library Service to the Aging," American Libraries, II (October, 1971), 999-1004.

4. Public Library Association. Standards Committee, Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems 1966, Chicago, American Library Association, 1967.

CHAPTER III

NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF THE ELDERLY

If public libraries have the obligation to serve the elderly American, the directors must first have an understanding of who the people are who are called senior citizens. They must also understand what some of the primary interests, needs, and problems of the elderly are before they can know how they may best provide services to them.

In 1974, one out of every ten Americans in the United States was sixty-five (the chronological age most commonly accepted for a person to be called elderly) or older. This included almost twenty-two million men and women. The proportion of the population sixty-five years old and over varies by race and ethnic origin: for whites the percentage of the population was 11 per cent, for blacks 7 per cent, and for persons of Spanish origin 4 per cent.

This age group of sixty-five plus is also the fastest growing segment of the population. Between 1900 and 1974 the percentage of the United States population aged sixty-five or over more than doubled (four and one tenth per cent in 1900 to ten and three tenths per cent in 1974) while the

actual number increased about sevenfold, from three million to twenty-two million. Unless there is a change in death rates, the older population is expected to increase 40 per cent to thirty-one million by the year 2000.

Older Americans live everywhere in the United States, but in 1974 about half of them (45.4 per cent) lived in seven of the eight most populous states: California, Illinois, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Florida. Each of these states had more than one million older persons. The sixty-five and over population in two states (California and New York) will soon reach two million, if it has not already. Eight states had an unusually high proportion of older persons (12 per cent or more) in their total populations - Florida (15.5 per cent), Arkansas (12.8 per cent), Iowa (12.6 per cent), Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas (12.4 per cent each), South Dakota (12.3 per cent), and Oklahoma (12.1 per cent).

Marital Status and Living Arrangements

In 1974, most older men (79 per cent) were married, and a little over two-third (36.4 per cent) of these older married men had wives under sixty-five years of age. In contrast to this high percentage of married men, most older women (fifty-two per cent) were widows. There were more than five times as many widows as widowers.

Contrary to popular myth, only about 5 per cent or approximately one million older people lived in any kind of institution in 1974. Most older persons lived in a family setting, and the numbers of older men and older women living in a family setting were about the same (7.1 million men, 7.2 million women). But there are many more older women than older men (143 women to every 100 men), and therefore the distribution is disproportionate, with 83 per cent of the men in family settings and only 60 per cent of the women. Regardless of this high figure in family settings, more than 6.3 million older persons (1.4 million men and 4.8 million women) lived alone or with non-relatives. This was 40 per cent of all older women, but only 17 per cent of all older men. With advancing age within the older population, the proportion living within a family setting rapidly decreases.

Economic Security

The older Americans must cope with a variety of major problems as they reach and pass their sixty-fifth year. Financial security to a great extent determines the range of alternatives people have in making a successful adjustment to growing old. Older people with adequate financial resources can afford to have the proper foods, to seek the best in health care, to travel, to go shopping, to entertain friends, or to keep a decent wardrobe and household.

Elderly people without adequate resources are able to do few of these things. Perhaps herein lies the most demoralizing fact of life for the elderly: as most grow old, their income drops. At retirement, income usually drops by 50 per cent or more, and during the years that follow it deteriorates even further. Unfortunately, the expenses the elderly incur do not decline by such a large percentage. In fact, the main items of retirement expense - food, housing, medical care, transportation - are the very ones that have been hardest hit by inflation in recent years.

As many as five million older people--a quarter of the over sixty-five population--live in poverty. Some 3.5 million old people are officially classified as poor by the Social Security Administration. When measuring poverty, however, it is important to note that the Social Security Administration's definition of poverty is very conservative at best. An elderly individual is classified as poor if his income falls below $2130 a year. For a couple, they are considered as poor if his income falls below $2130 a year. For a couple, they are considered poor if they receive less than $2690 annually (3, pp. 124-125). But there is also a substantial group of "hidden" elderly living in poverty. About 1.3 million old people with incomes below the government's poverty level are not classified as poor because they live in households with other people. The logic behind this

is that if the combined income of all the individuals in the household is above poverty level, the Social Security Administration does not consider any individual in the household to be poor. Thus, an old person living with one of his children will not be considered poor, even if his personal income is below poverty levels and he pays for his room, board, and all other expenses of living. Contrary to a popularly held belief, cash support for older people from their children, relatives, and friends equals only about one per cent of the aggregate income the elderly receive (1, p. 144).

There is another large and hidden group of elderly poor--those living in institutions. About half of the one million elderly living in nursing homes and other institutions are poor, but they do not appear in poverty statistics (3, p. 125).

Work and Retirement

Do older people continue to work after age sixty-five? In 1974, almost three million or 14 per cent of the elderly were in the labor force--either working or actively seeking work. This amounts to more than 3 per cent of the United States' total labor force. Over 20 per cent of the older men (1.9 million) and about 8 per cent of the older women (one million) are in the labor force. But the male

participation in the labor force has decreased steadily from two or three older men in 1900 to one in five in 1974. The female rate rose slightly from one in twelve in 1900 to one in ten in 1972, but dropped back to one in twelve in 1974 (4).

Age is usually the prime consideration for a person's separation from his occupational position. About seventy per cent of the men and about ninety per cent of the women over age sixty-five do not have an occupational position. Retirement marks the end of what is generally thought to be a close relationship between the kind of work an individual does and the kind of lifestyle and livelihood he enjoys. This relationship results from the fact that for most people in American society, the only fully acceptable way of getting money is by working for it (1, p. 183).

Age is also related to attitudes toward retirement. This is largely due to the fact that with increasing age the proportion of workers that anticipate financial difficulties in retirement increases. That finances are all-important in the relationship between age and attitude toward retirement is illustrated by the fact that if adequate income could be assured, the proportion who would retire increases steadily from twenty-one to sixty-four (1, pp. 158-159). The long range trend is clearly in the direction of earlier retirement.

Many gerontologists feel that retirement is perhaps the most crucial life change, requiring a major adjustment on the part of the older person. This change may well involve a time void which must be filled since few prepare themselves adequately for retirement.

Health

On the average, older people are comparatively less often afflicted than the young with conditions classified as acute (such as heart trouble or deafness) and are more likely to suffer disability restrictions on their activity. The treatment and management of these chronic illnesses are the major medical problems of America's elderly. In 1973, about 38 per cent of older people were limited in their major activity (working or keeping house) due to chronic conditions (4).

The leading chronic conditions among old people are: arthritis and rheumatism, followed by heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma and hayfever, diabetes, chronic bronchitis, and ulcers (3, p. 142). These chronic illnesses significantly limit the activities of about half of all Americans sixty-five or older. They prevent nearly one older person in five from carrying out basic activities of daily life, such as cooking and climbing stairs. The severity of these disabilities increases dramatically with age.

Between ages sixty-five and seventy-four, 40 per cent experience some significant disability. Above age seventy-five, the prevalence of disability rises to 60 per cent (3, p. 142). Vision and hearing losses are particularly common among the oldest of the old. In 1971, older people were twice as likely as the general population to wear glasses, and thirteen times as likely to use a hearing aid. About 92 per cent of the persons sixty-five years old and over wore eyeglasses or contact lenses and 5 per cent used hearing aids (4).

This decline in general health causes the elderly to utilize and spend more for health care. In 1973, older people had one-third more physician visits than persons under sixty-five (6.5 for the aged versus 4.8 for those under sixty-five). Also in that year older people had about a one in six chance of being hospitalized during the year, while for persons under sixty-five the likelihood was only one in ten. The proportion of those with more than one hospitalization during a year was also greater for older people. Moreover, once in the hospital, older people stayed about five days longer than younger patients (12.2 days for the elderly versus 7.2 for all others). On the other hand, half of the older population had either not seen a dentist for five or more years or had never visited a dentist. But in spite of the infrequency of visits to the

dentist, the cost of health care for the elderly (per capita) in 1973 was $1,052, over two and one half times as much as the $384 spent for younger adults (4).

Education

While about 25 per cent of the fourteen to sixty-five year old age group has eight or less years of education, 60 per cent of those sixty-five or older have eight or less years of education (2, p. 53).

Perhaps the ultimate withdrawal of support from older people is that of the education systems in the United States which are youth oriented and job oriented. Even adult education tends to be oriented around the type of skills needed to secure a better job or promotion. Few adult education programs are devoted to the skills involved in the enjoyment of living. Consequently, the vast growth of the educational establishment has left older people largely untouched.

Participation in all types of educational activities declines after age fifty and drops sharply after age sixty-five. Only 3 per cent of all those enrolled in adult basic education are sixty-five or older. This figure is especially distressing because the low level of formal education among older people makes them the group which probably needs adult basic education the most. Several reasons exist for so few older people participating in education activities, among them:

1. Social and economic circumstances interfere as life becomes a struggle to remain healthy, financially solvent, and secure.

2. Older people have serious doubts about their ability to learn.

3. Most formal education programs are almost totally irrelevant for older people.

4. Relative isolation of the older population, as older people are essentially hidden in our society (3, p. 84).

Dependency

Perhaps the role change for the aged that is most dreaded is the shift from the role of independent adult to that of dependency upon others. Older people, both in the community as well as institutions, dread becoming dependent, whether physically or financially. In either instance, it is a difficult position for most adults to accept. This is not difficult to understand, for Americans have been taught from birth that their ultimate goal is to become independent and self-sufficient. What makes dependency especially difficult is the set of expectations attached to it. Dependent people in our society are supposed to defer to their benefactors, to be eternally grateful for what they receive, and to relinquish their rights to lead their own lives. Should there be any surprise then that the older person, after having spent as many as fifty years as an independent adult, fights the idea of assuming the dependent position? And yet, about one third of older Americans

find themselves having to ask their offspring for some kind of help at one time or another (1, pp. 107-108).

Nutrition

The twenty-one million plus American elderly probably constitute the most poorly nourished segment of our population. This condition exists because all the problems of old people--especially poverty, physical and mental illness, isolation, and immobility--make it less likely that they will eat well. Moreover, the elderly are badly hurt by the tremendous rate of food price inflation which reached an annual rate of thirty per cent in the mid-1970's (3, p. 156). Also, physical disability and lack of transportation limit many older people's shopping trips to the high-priced local neighborhood stores. Finally, many isolated old people simply lose interest in cooking and eating. In our society meal times are social events, and many people who live alone have no desire to sit down to a solitary meal.

Consumer Fraud

Older people functioning as consumers have many good reasons to be exceedingly careful as they are vulnerable to a large number of consumer frauds and inequities. Often they are defrauded by phony medicine hustlers, land swindles, and dubious home-improvement schemes. Much of this fraud frequently follows the news very closely such as the energy

crisis of 1974, with the mail-order promotion of furnaces and home insulation specials. Many of the consumer problems that the elderly face are those that face anyone else--the new refrigerator that fails to work or the auto repairs that are really not repaired. But many others are those that strike almost exclusively at older people, especially their physical problems. Two of the most common are the fraudulent cures for arthritis and deceitful practices in the sale and fitting of hearing aids (3, p. 178).

Recreation and Leisure

While people in their later years have much more time to devote to leisure activities, the expansion of these activities is not drastic. Patterns of leisure vary from weekdays to weekends. On weekdays the most frequent activity is watching television, and this holds true for both men and women. On weekends the main activity changes to visiting and entertaining, followed by watching television. The largest amount (35 per cent) of older Americans' leisure is spent at home, and most of it is activity that can be done alone. After television, the most prevalent activities are visiting, reading, gardening, walking, and handiwork. While older people read fewer books and magazines, newspapers remain an important part of their routine. In fact, older people rate newspapers as more important than television.

Movie-going falls off rapidly after age fifty, and older people attend the theatre, concerts, or sports events less frequently. The elderly tend to prefer serious content, and their favorite television programs center on public affairs, news, and information. Also, older people devote more attention to the local news section of newspapers. Older people tend to avoid shows designed strictly for entertainment. What may seem surprising is that only a small proportion of older people occupy themselves with crafts, hobbies, or intellectual and artistic activities. The only outdoor activities that increase with age are gardening and walking, and vacation and travel are limited to the few who can afford the expense.

While this list of problems, needs, and interests of older Americans is not meant to be inclusive, considering such other concerns created by a changing social role, widowhood, transportation, housing, mental health, etc., it does present a picture of a large segment of American society that is faced with seemingly overwhelming problems--problems that need to be dealt with--problems that American public libraries, whatever their size or circumstance, can help to alleviate in a variety of ways.

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Atchley, Robert C., The Social Forces in Later Life: An Introduction to Social Gerontology, Belmont, California, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1972.

2. Cleveland Public Library, National Survey of Library Services to the Aging Final Report, Washington,D.C., Bureau of Libraries and Educational Technology, 1971.

3. Manney, James D., Jr., Aging in American Society: An Examination of Concepts and Issues, Ann Arbor, Michigan, The University of Michigan - Wayne State University, 1975.

4. U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Facts About Older Americans 1975, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1975.

CHAPTER IV

A MODEL FOR SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY BY THE SMALL/MEDIUM SIZED PUBLIC LIBRARY

What are the realities, as well as the possibilities, of the services that public libraries can provide to benefit that segment of American society outlined in Chapter III? In 1961 Rose Vainstein, then Public Library Specialist for the Office of Education, listed eight areas of programming by libraries which she felt would be of service in the field of aging:

1. Reader's Guidance--assistance in finding appropriate materials for the elderly.
2. Program Planning--helping day centers, service agencies, etc. plan programs of interest for their membership.
3. Adult Education--providing library service to community groups through such library-sponsored or cooperative planned programs as forums, discussion groups, film service, etc.
4. Service to Specialized Personnel--serving the professional and lay worker in the field with technical assistance and materials.
5. Public Relations--publicizing the library's many resources, services, and programs.
6. Service to Shut-ins--whether in their own home, hospital and institution, nursing homes, and homes for the aged.
7. Retirement Planning--working with business, industry, unions, etc. in their provision of courses relating to preparation for successful retirement.
8. Community Planning--working with local government, social, and welfare agencies in their community-wide planning to meet economic, health, social, recreational, educational, housing and other needs of the aged (7, p. 269).

In an article entitled, "Promoting Library Services for the Elderly," librarian Peter Marakos stated that public libraries could:

1. Encourage and stimulate membership in national and regional associations of retired people whose aims were to better their status through collective action, by (a) displaying their proclamations and announcements, (b) exhibiting samples of their publications, (c) subscribing to their periodicals, and (d) distributing their brochures at the library.
2. Recruit volunteers visitor or library companions from among the library patrons or the community to visit homebound elderly people and keep them in touch with the library.
3. Be a clearinghouse of pertinent information by compiling directories in large print of local organizations concerned with the welfare of the elderly.
4. Arrange discussion forums for the area's elderly in the library, under the sponsorship of relevant local groups, during which the elderly could get together to discuss their problems, share their experiences, and exchange personal insights.
5. Initiate interagency conferences with representatives of area governmental agencies and social service organizations to develop effective ways of bringing to the attention of eligible aging, every type of economic aid, counseling, training, guidance, etc. (4, pp. 155-156).

Marakos further indicated some of the services which could be provided for local libraries by public library systems (to which many public libraries belong), district centers, or state libraries by:

1. Providing reading aides (magnifiers, reading stands, page turners, etc.) for the elderly with impaired vision or other handicaps.
2. Establishing travelling collections of large print books rotated among local libraries.
3. Providing bibliographies of low vocabulary/high interest books for elderly with limited education.

4. Creating and making available easy to deploy portable displays for local stores, etc.
5. Providing a speaker's bureau of experts on subjects of interest to the elderly.
6. Providing current information about available federal and state funds for projects relating to the elderly.
7. Creating or making available current directories of state, county, and regional agencies and organizations concerned with the welfare of the aging and aged, with outlined programs and services.
8. Making available interesting and informative government pamphlets for free distribution to the elderly by the local libraries (4, pp. 156-157).

Some of the unique services and programs that public libraries have and are providing to the elderly are presented in the following paragraphs.

Allerton Public Library in Monticello, Illinois, recognized that many of their aged had a low-vocabulary level. The aged in Monticello nursing homes were asked to read and review children's books. "While the interest of the program is largely to provide encouragement for the reading of children's level materials without offending the readers, both the readers and the library derive benefit from the program" (3, p. 38).

The Milwaukee Public Library provides library service to concentrations of aged in housing projects, homes for the aged, and hotels with bookmobile service. Especially interesting in this project is the design of the bookmobile, which includes such special features as shelving to house large print books, recordings, tapes, and pamphlets; width

sufficient to accommodate wheel chairs; and an entrance built with a ramp. Also included in the proposal is a portable cart for use in carrying library materials into the agencies having shut-ins (5, p. 37).

The Minneapolis Public Library, under one of the programs from Title III of the Older American Act, has a program that is different from most others in that the older people themselves give the service rather than being recipients. The program involves the use of senior citizen aides and is administered through the National Council for Senior Citizens. The aides, working fifteen to twenty hours weekly in five community branches, are employed "to read to individual children or small groups, help them with simple craft work, keep them occupied; to talk with individual children or small groups and express interest and friendliness; and to assist the children's librarian with discipline when necessary" (5, pp. 38-39).

The Conway Public Library and the Wolfeboro-Brewster Memorial Library in New Hampshire have volunteers who record the articles from local newspapers, church services, school and civic events, and local history on cassette tapes. These tapes are then circulated weekly to elderly homebounds without transportation, temporarily disabled people, and residents of the county's nursing home. The program also provides the cassette players (6, p. 17).

The Pulaski County Library in Somerset, Kentucky has scheduled interviews with older people for an oral history program. Each older person is given a certain area to discuss such as what business, medicine, or agriculture was like fifty years ago. The interviews are videotaped and recorded on a cassette tape. The cassette tapes are circulated to the residents of the local nursing home. The videotapes are available to people in the community and the local television station to utilize in talk programs and research. Volunteers in different sections of the county have been obtained to find potential participants and to collect old photographs which will be mounted in a journal for circulation (6, pp. 17-18).

To a great extent the services and programs a public library can offer to the elderly are only limited by the interest and needs of the elderly within the service area of the library and the desire on the part of the librarian to help meet those interests and needs. Services for the elderly can be provided both in and out of the library. For example, in the library, tours could be given on how to use the library. Information and referral services might be provided, special book collections and lists made available, and talks, seminars and discussions groups given. Study groups might be organized, film and travelogue programs conducted, workshops on aging or genealogy presented, and

oral history programs devised. Art programs, gardening clinics, hobby displays, and shows, as well as special demonstrations on areas of interest might all be organized for the elderly. In addition, older volunteers might be trained to help provide the library's services.

Outside of the physical confines of the library, services could be provided through a books by mail program, satellite collections of library materials, rotating talk and film programs, bookmobile or van service, and a visiting librarian or volunteers to provide services to shut-ins and the handicapped.

A Guide for Library Service to the Elderly

What follows is a step by step guide for public librarians who are interested in developing library programs and services for the elderly, outlining the process from the conception to the completion.

Obtain the Support of the Board of Trustees and Staff

Before considering any comprehensive program of services, procure the consent and support of the Board of Trustees of the library and the library's staff. If the Board agrees that special services and programs are needed for the elderly segment of the community, the members can become valuable supporters of the project. Some Board members can become so

enthusiastic over the idea that they will volunteer their expertise for certain programs. More importantly, because of their positions in the community, Board members will often be aware of the various ways to fund special programs and may also provide contacts with the appropriate people to obtain financial resources for the services.

The importance of staff support for the proposed program should not be underestimated, whether there are two or twenty staff members, for they are the ones who will be providing many of the services. In a larger library several different departments could be utilized for programs. The reference librarian might provide information and referral services and special material collections and bibliographies. The children's librarian might be asked to teach grandparents how to tell stories to their grandchildren or others.

It would be beneficial to have an in-service training program on the process of aging for all the librarians and paraprofessionals in the library who would be involved in providing the services. The areas to be discussed should include the general characteristics of the elderly, both physical and mental, interests and needs of the elderly, the existent programs for the elderly already in the community, and the services for the aged that other libraries are providing. It would be desirable if a librarian experienced in working with the elderly could be a speaker at the in-service training sessions. Possible sources for this

individual would be the public library system or state library. This person would be able to share his practical knowledge of programs that have been of most value and explain why these programs were helpful.

Survey Needs and Existent Programs for the Elderly

An essential step in planning the services and programs to be developed is to discover what the needs of the elderly in the community are and to identify the existent programs and agencies which are serving them already. Some of the organizations and agencies that should be contacted are:

Churches
Department of Recreation
Senior Aides (National Council on the Aging)
Department of Health
Social Security Administration
Green Thumb
American Red Cross
ACTION Program
  RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
  Foster Grandparent Program
Visiting Nurses Association or Home Health Agencies
Meals on Wheels
State or Area Agencies on Aging
Senior Centers
Community Colleges
Local County Extension Office
Veterans Administration
Adult Day Care Centers
State Department of Public Welfare
Nursing Homes
Legal Aid Society
Housing Authority
Social Service Agencies
Retirement Homes for the Elderly
Information Referral Centers
Transportation Services
Mental Health Hospitals
Nutrition Programs for the Elderly

This task can be simplified if a comprehensive community directory exists, which lists agencies and their services. If one is available, it should be used in conjunction with personal contact. Speak with the personnel of these organizations and discover what services they are providing. Discuss how the library can assist them through:

a) Resources, materials, and services for the staff and the older persons they serve,
b) Cooperation on joint projects for the elderly, and
c) The involvement of key persons in the field of aging.

The elderly in the community will be the best source for determining program need. Identify and speak with special groups and individuals, finding out what type of programs they would like to have, the best times for the programs, and the type of library services that they are using at the present. More specifically, consider the ways in which the library can contribute through:

a) Resources, materials, and services,
b) Areas for their active involvement in library services for the aging,
c) Areas of programming, including programs with general appeal to all age groups, and
d) Outreach services to retirement/nursing homes, senior centers, church groups, retirement groups, etc.

A questionnaire (in large print) could be used whenever groups are contacted, to help identify needs, such as:

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE ANSWERS

1. What type of programs would you like to attend?

___ Demonstrations such as explaining talking books

___ Art displays

___ Craft programs

___ Talks or discussions on current events

___ Film programs

___ Oral history program

___ Travelogues

___ Community information and referral

2. What is the best time of the day and week for you to attend programs?

___ Morning (8 am to 11 pm)

___ Afternoon (1 pm to 4 pm)

___ Evening (6 pm to 9 pm)

___ Monday ___ Thursday

___ Tuesday ___ Friday

___ Wednesday ___ Weekends

3. Have you used any other library services such as:

___ Bookmobile

___ Checking out books or pamphlets

___ Attending film programs

___ Calling on the telephone for information

___ Books by mail service

___ Others - Explain: _____

_____

_____

4. Sex: Male___ Female ____

5. Age:

___ 55-65

___ 66-70

___ 71-75

___ 76-80

___ 80 and above

(6, p. 5)

Once the information from these questionnaires has been obtained, it should be analyzed to determine the interests and needs of the elderly that are not being met by other organizations or agencies. Be aware of services and programs that are available from other sources; cooperate with and assist them, but do not duplicate existent services. The data collected should be used as a guide in determining programs and services that can be provided in the library, or outside of it, with the realization of the library's resources and limitations, including personnel, materials, and budgets.

With the knowledge of the library's limitations, consult with other librarians in the community including

school, college and university, hospital and institutional libraries and try to engage their support in comprehensive cooperative planning for the aging.

After the library has decided upon the programs and services it will offer, and the appropriate people are contacted in regard to their desire for programs, cost accounting should take place. If possible, each program should have a separate cost account. Budgeting in this way can provide a ready-made guideline as to the boundaries for each program. Also, some of the programs might have sources of funding outside of the regular library budget which would require separate record keeping.

Knowledge and Information Collection and Dissemination

Begin to locate the sources of appropriate materials for the programs and services to be offered. These might include large print books, talking books, records, tapes, films, pamphlets and other materials which are available for purchase, for free, or for borrowing.

Organize information on community agencies, activities, and resources of special importance to the aging and the aged and other organizations working with them. Maintain well-annotated files which include names, telephone numbers, addresses, and types of services available on:

1. Speakers, book reviewers, and other resource persons available for programs,
2. Materials available from other agencies for public dissemination,
3. Human resources - health, home maintenance, etc., and
4. Publications, reports, community population profiles, funding agencies, and other research resources.

Begin to acquire the equipment and materials for the programs and services decided upon. Some of the equipment that might be used for services to the elderly, depending upon budget or the ability to borrow, includes film and slide projectors, opaque projectors, record players with earphone attachments, cassette or tape recorders, talking book machines for demonstration purposes, microphones, light-weight magnifiers, and other audiovisual equipment. While some of the equipment will be readily available, some must be obtained on loan or purchased. For some of the more specialized equipment, it might prove better to borrow or rent it until such time as the program has proven to be a success.

Publicize Programs and Program Resources

The conventional methods of communication should be utilized to promote the programs and services that are or will be available from the library. This must be a concentrated effort to reach those for whom these programs are

intended, for until these services are known, they will be of little value. This information can be publicized through:

Newspapers. -- A short, concise article accompanied by a picture illustrating the service should include, in addition to the description of the service, its date and time, speakers, and sponsoring agencies. It would be better if the library's services as a whole could be publicized with a special section on the services to the elderly. In this way the article has a better chance of appearing in a good location of the paper rather than being buried inbetween unrelated advertisements. In communities where the library has its own column, a feature article on the new services would help to promote the programs.

Radio and Television. -- Most elderly view the television or listen to the radio during prime time. It would be most useful if spot announcements could be placed at these times, and the librarian should contact the commercial and educational stations about placing such announcements of their services. Where there is a local community interest show which brings in people to tell about their programs, the librarian should make the effort to be featured as a guest speaker. This will require advance preparation to tell and sell the program especially when there are numerous others competing for public service time.

Mail. -- Flyers and/or special invitations to elderly groups should be sent out. It would be best to send these flyers out several times to remind the people of the new services. The flyers can be sent to resource people in the field of aging and the elderly groups who were surveyed in the planning phase. The flyer and/or special invitation should describe the program and its objectives, when the program will begin, and whom it will serve.

Other sources of communication that can be used are:

Special posters. -- Colorful, eyecatching posters with large print can be placed in strategic locations in the library and in certain agencies and organizations such as senior citizens centers, residential homes for the aged, community colleges, etc.

Newsletters. -- Various agencies and organizations that serve the elderly publish newsletters on a regular basis. The library can approach these agencies with a brief announcement of their new services.

Word of mouth. -- The librarian can make a special effort to seek out speaking engagements to tell the community about the new services. When the staff of the library, agency people, and groups of elderly are notified they can help tell those who have not been contacted otherwise about the new programs. Often this type of communication brings in some of the most needy individuals.

Reading lists and exhibits. -- Provide those that will be of interest to the elderly as well as to the general public, and make them available inside and outside of the library.

Implementation of Services and Programs

The implementation of the programs and services decided upon will often prove to be the most difficult task because of factors or problems that will arise which had not been anticipated. Implementation will require the following sequence of steps:

1. Assessing resources and obtaining necessary background material for the programs. This first step requires researching library journals and other sources to discover if other similar services or programs have been done before. If the particular type of service or something similar is found, the librarian should write, contact by phone, or arrange to visit the sponsoring agency. In finding out about the program, ask about the number of staff members employed, the type of equipment used, the cost of service, the types of clientele served, and their responses to the service.

Along with this, local information should be obtained. For example, if the service to be offered is a shut-in or bookmobile service, it is necessary to know where the highest concentration of elderly exists within the community, and how these elderly can be located. Census tracts and

census county subdivisions (for smaller communities) will give the number of elderly for a small section of the community. This information can then be plotted on a map to show those areas where the service will be needed most. In contacting the individual users of the service, the librarian will have to go to the structured groups in that area. Such groups that could be contacted for this information are churches, homemaker clubs, nursing homes, visiting nurses or home health care agencies, and known library patrons that live in the area. Agencies or organizations which cover the entire community might provide a list of people whom they serve in that area. For example, the American Red Cross has a Project Alert to locate people eligible for Supplemental Security Income.

Obtaining special background material for programs will add an extra dimension to the service or program. Although some programs will not require extensive background work, such as films and travelogues, are more interesting if appropriate books, pamphlets, or artifacts accompany the service.

2. Procure the necessary equipment, materials, supplies, and/or resource personnel. As mentioned earlier, the type of equipment needed will depend on what programs and services have been chosen. If the equipment is not already owned by the library, it might prove best to borrow or rent it

until such time as the program has shown its popularity. Audio-visual equipment is quite expensive and the library cannot afford to waste its resources. Some of the possible materials for use in programs for the elderly are films, slides, transparencies, records, paintings, cassettes or tapes, talking books, audio-visual tapes, special packets of materials for a workshop furnished by local, state, or federal agencies or organizations, photographs, crafts, and artifacts. Supplies that may be needed for the programs in addition to regular office supplies are posters and flyers for publicity purposes, art and craft supplies, and possibly refreshments.

If the program to be presented is to be a talk, seminar, workshop, or something similar, the resource people will have to be obtained. Often such people from the community will donate their time to speak to a group of elderly. If an adequate resource person cannot be found in the community and has to be obtained from out of town, then his or her travel expenses and a small honorarium might have to be paid.

3. Scheduling programs. The times and dates of the program have to be arranged. The questionnaires handed out to the elderly will give the librarian an idea about what times of day and week are the best. This involves decisions about whether or not a program should be continuous or part-time, how often it should be presented, and how long it should continue. In helping to decide this, keep in mind

adjustments for transportation, weather conditions, retention span of the participants, and interest factors.

If the services are going to be offered at the library, it might be better to arrange them in the spring and fall months, when summer vacations and inclement weather will not prevent the elderly from coming to the library.

The length of program should be considered. In most instances an hour-long program from a series is sufficient and the retention and interest of participants will remain higher. In cases where the subject matter is light or extremely interesting, a longer time period would be warranted. For example, a craft show or garden display can be arranged so that people can come and go throughout the day(s). Where extension or outreach services are planned, once a program is started it will be expected to be continued. Often the older people receiving this service will be more or less non-ambulatory, and they will look forward to each visit or program with anticipation. The routing of the visits and length of time will need to be scheduled in conjunction with the library's ongoing services. This will vary according to each library's particular circumstances such as current obligations, availability of transportation, number of staff and their current duties, and the distance of the areas to serve. When scheduling visits to elderly shut-ins, it will be important to keep in mind that the shut-ins will want the

visiting librarian to spend some time with them because they are often lonely and isolated from the rest of the community, so that time taken with them is often as important as the intended service.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Services

After implementation of the programs, it will be necessary to monitor them and evaluate their worth. Four primary areas should be monitored as to their effectiveness and adequacy:

1. Staff. The staff's attitude and opinion about the work they are doing should be sought. It could be that they did not perceive the services or programs as they actually are and do not care to devote as much of their time to meeting the unique needs of the elderly as is being required.

Another staffing problem could be the need for more people to expand services on a limited budget. Trained volunteers could assist here. Perhaps older volunteers on a regular part-time basis could be trained to provide services to their peers.

2. Cost. The program costs should be analyzed the first few months of the service and at stated intervals thereafter. All programs have financial limitations, and new services will have particular budget problems simply because the library has no experience with them. The cost figures for the first months should be checked to see if

they are staying at the amounts budgeted. It is important to realize problem areas early in the program so that they can be corrected to meet estimated figures at the end of the fiscal year. It could prove that too much was scheduled at too low a level of funding. If so, a reevaluation of priorities and objectives will need to be made, eliminating those services that are the lowest priority.

3. User interest. The programs need to be evaluated as to their appeal to the elderly. The surveys taken during planning might have indicated that one type of program was desired, but when the program was initiated the response may have been poor. The reason why this happened should be determined. It could be that the time lapse between the planning phase and implementation phase caused the lack of interest. For example, a new program could have been developed by another agency which was similar to one of the library's scheduled programs. Therefore, the agency could have saturated the elderly's interest in this particular area. Another reason might be that the elderly group being served by the program was not characteristic of the other groups who were surveyed. A simple questionnaire or informal talk with those being served could provide the answer to the poor response to the program(s). Once the reason has been determined, the program's or service's direction can be changed to better serve the elderly.

4. Schedules. As more programs are provided to the elderly, the schedules of the staff will have to be rearranged. It is important to be able to develop a pattern which allows for the most efficient delivery of services. The first few months will be the hardest since the additions to the new services will be the most frequent. As time passes and the program becomes established, a pattern will develop. However, there should always be room for flexibility in the routine to allow for more people to become part of the program or to provide an alternative to a service when the need arises.

Barriers to Service

As a final point to be made, if this model is used as a guide in providing library services and programs to the elderly, failure can still occur without an awareness on the part of the librarian of some possible barriers to library service and use by the elderly.

1. Architectural design of the building. Due to a variety of physical problems faced by the elderly, the library building might need:

Ramps leading into the building

Smooth doorsills and joinings between different areas of the building

Handrails for ramps and stairways

Meeting rooms with high intensity lighting and constant climate control without drafts, and controls for heating, cooling, humidity, purification, and ventilation

Distinctive signs for direction to ramps, public restrooms, meeting rooms, and exits

Comfortable, padded chairs that are easy to get into and out of

2. Possible handicaps. Some of the handicaps that can affect services to the elderly are:

a) Visual difficulties -- both near and distance vision decline with age. This can affect an older person's ability to read, see film and talk programs, and find materials in the library. Older people also need more light because the size of the pupil diminishes as one grows older (2, pp. 52-54).

b) Hearing problems -- hearing loss begins early in adulthood and gradually progresses as one gets older, particularly in men. It is especially hard for some older people to hear certain high-pitched sounds and sounds of low intensity (2, pp. 54-55). Therefore it is important to find a meeting place where background noise is at a minimum. If the print used in captioned films is large enough, this might be effectively used with those elderly who are having hearing difficulties.

c) Chronic diseases -- a great majority of older people are afflicted with one or more chronic diseases such as arthritis and rheumatism, heart condition, and high blood pressure. Not all of these restrict mobility, but there is some accompanying limitation of activity. For instance, if there are elderly people working as library volunteers, it might be best to schedule several volunteers on a part-time basis to do the job rather than one or two older people working full-time.

d) Personal feelings of inadequacy -- as brought out earlier, many older people are not formally well educated. They are not familiar with formalized institutions such as the library, and may not have used a public library since they were young, if then. Many elderly attended schools which did not have libraries. It would be natural that people with this background would feel uncomfortable in a library setting.

A program on use of the library could explain services with the least embarrassment to the elderly. The program should explain how to find books and magazines by approaching library staff members or by using the card catalogs, how to obtain a library card, how to use microfilm, the type of services and programs that the library provides, and any charge for these services; the location of ramps, elevators and restrooms; and the location of any special collections such as large print books, art works, records or cassette tapes; and check-out procedures. A program of this type would greatly enhance the chances of the elderly's becoming users and participants in the library.

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. American Library Association. Reference and Adult Services Division. Committee on Library Services to an Aging Population, "Guidelines for Library Service to an Aging Population," RQ, III (Spring, 1975), 237-239.

2. Atchley, Robert C., The Social Forces in Later Life: An Introduction to Social Gerontology, Belmont, California, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1972.

3. Daffern, Beverly A., "Patterns of Library Service to Residents of Senior Citizen Apartment Complexes," AHIL Quarterly, XIII (Summer/Fall, 1973), 35-42.

4. Marakos, Peter G., "Promoting Library Services for the Elderly," PLA Bulletin, XXIX, No. 4 (July, 1974), 155-157.

5. Reed, Emily W., "Survey of Library Programs Under the Older Americans Act," ALA Adult Services Division Newsletter, VI (Spring, 1969), 37-39.

6. Rulander, Elizabeth, Expanding Library Services to the Elderly, (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 22), Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.

7. Vainstein, Rose, "The Library and the Senior Citizen," Illinois Libraries, XLIII (April, 1961), 264-270.

CHAPTER V

SOURCES AND RESOURCES

For the librarian who acknowledges the responsibility on the part of public libraries to provide services to the older population within service areas and desires to begin doing so, this chapter is designed to provide a bibliography of sources and resources that will assist the librarian and library by:

1. Providing "how-to" resources on ways to proceed in setting up services and programs for the elderly.

2. Providing resources where the librarian may find additional sources of funding for such services, beyond the local or state level.

3. Providing a core collection of materials for the library which will provide general information about the elderly, as well as materials which specifically speak to many of the problems and needs of the elderly.

4. Providing a bibliography of bibliographies from which the librarian will be able to locate further written materials, equipment, aids, audio visual materials, etc.

5. Providing sources for obtaining more specialized materials needed by the elderly, such as large print materials, braille, records and tapes, films, and other audio visual material.

6. Providing the names and addresses of organizations, associations, government agencies, etc. which to varying degrees are concerned with the elderly and can be contacted for materials and information.

In cases where the source of the item may be vague, or there is some doubt of its being obtained through normal library acquisition methods, an address has been given. For others, the name and address of the publisher or provider may be found in the section on "Organizations, Associations and Government Agencies."

How-to Resources

American Foundation for the Blind, An Introduction to Working with the Aging Person who is Visually Handicapped, New York, American Foundation for the Blind, 1972.
This provides information on blindness and aging and how best to aid the aging blind person. A listing of agencies for the blind and sources of supply for various aids and appliances is included.

American Library Association. Reference and Adult Services Division. Committee on Library Services to an Aging Population, Guidelines for Library Services to an Aging Population.
These are tentative guidelines that will assist in planning new services and programs for the elderly. This is available from:
RASD Library Service to an Aging Population Committee
%Institutional Services
Dallas Public Library
1954 Commerce
Dallas, TX. 75201

Gotsick, Priscilla, Community Service Guide for Assessment of Community Information and Service Needs (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 2), Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.
Before planning to expand library services and programs for the elderly, it is necessary to know what the resources and needs of the community are. This guide will assist in showing how to assess the community.

National Retired Teachers Association/American Association of Retired Persons, A Demonstration Pilot Project of Comprehensive Library Services for the Aged in Selected Kentucky Communities, Final Report - Phase I, June, 1973.

This is a report of a two-year demonstration program begun in April, 1972. The objectives included developing and providing materials especially adapted to older adult needs, and developing programs for the "hard-to-reach" elderly.

Rawles, Beverly, Materials Selection for Disadvantaged Adults (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 1), Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.
This provides assistance in identifying the clients and their needs as well as assessing the library's collection, bibliographies of materials, publishers, etc. Gives good assistance in hard to find materials for the non or low level reader.

Rawles, Beverly, Planning the Expansion of Library Services to Disadvantaged Adults (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 9), Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.
As given in the definition of terms in this guide, a "disadvantaged adult" is anyone sixteen years or older who reads below the tenth grade level, or whose income is below the poverty level. Millions of elderly fall within this definition and this guide will assist in serving them.

Rossiter, Andrew and Eve Lee, Workshop: Library Services for the Aging, Participants Manual, Denver, Center for Research and Education, 1974.
A manual for a workshop designed to introduce the subject of aging in relation to library services and to help stimulate and facilitate the improvement and extension of library services for the older persons of a community. The media and director's manual for use with this workshop are available on interlibrary loan from:

Colorado State Library
1362 Lincoln
Denver, CO 80203

Rulander, Elizabeth, Expanding Library Services to the Elderly (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 22), Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.
A how-to assistance guide for putting together a program of services for the elderly.

Sinclair, Dorothy, "Materials to Meet Special Needs," Library Trends, XVII (July, 1968), 36-47.
From questionnaires, the author accumulated a sampling of ways the need for materials for special groups (one being the older reader) are met. Where libraries do set up special collections of materials for these groups, specific subject areas are listed.

Turick, Dorothy Ann, ed., "The Neighborhood Information Center," RQ, XII (Summer, 1973), 341-363.
This is a group of papers giving the background and rationale of neighborhood information and referral centers, library involvement in these programs, and model programs and resources to use in the development of such a center.

Additional Sources of Funding

Administration on Aging, Federal Assistance for Projects in Aging, Washington, D.C., Administration on Aging, current.
A series (to-date) by the Administration on Aging. The publications describe federal agency government programs which support projects in aging. They give examples of projects which have been funded under each program and indicate where to obtain further information.

Bloom, Jane, Revenue-Sharing and the Elderly: How to Play and Win, Washington, D.C., National Council on the Aging, 1974.
A guidebook for public and private agencies serving the elderly on how to obtain their fair share of revenue-sharing dollars. Strategies for success are described, with a listing of community groups who have obtained these monies.

Cohen, Lilly and Marie Oppedisano-Reich, eds., A National Guide to Government and Foundation Funding Sources in the Field of Aging, Garden City, New York, Adelphi University Press, 1977.
A comprehensive guide of up-to-date information for grant seekers hoping to obtain funding for programs pertaining to the problems of older people. Each source is described by agency, authorization, objectives, types of assistance, uses and use restrictions, eligibility requirements, application procedure, assistance considerations, financial information, and information contacts.

Human Resources Network, How to Get Money for: Youth, the Elderly, the Handicapped, Women, and Civil Liberties, Radner, Pennsylvania, Chilton Book Co., 1975. Provides information on how to raise funds, funding characteristics, program planning, proposal writing, tax exemption on non-profit corporations, etc.

National Council on the Aging, Resources for the Aging: An Action Handbook, 2nd ed., rev., (Prepared for the Community Action Program, Office of Economic Opportunity), Washington, D.C., National Council on the Aging, 1969.

Core Collection

Aging in General

Atchley, Robert C., The Social Forces in Later Life: An Introduction to Social Gerontology, 2nd ed., Belmont, California, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1977.

Brotman, Herman E., Facts and Figures on Older Americans, numbers 1-10, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Administration on Aging, 1971-1973.

Butler, Robert N. and Myrna I. Lewis, Aging and Mental Health: Positive Psychological Approaches, St. Louis, Mosby, 1973.

Butler, Robert N., Why Survive? Being Old in America, New York, Harper and Row, 1975.

Ernst, Marvin and Herbert Shore, Sensitizing People to the Process of Aging: the In-service Educators Guide, Denton, Texas, North Texas State University, Center for Studies in Aging, 1975.

Huyck, Margaret Hellie, Growing Older: Things You Need to Know About Aging, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1974.

Manney, James D., Jr., Aging in American Society: An Examination of Concepts and Issues, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Institute of Gerontology Publications, 1975.

Puner, Morton, To the Good Long Life: What We Know About Growing Old, New York, Universe Books, 1974.

Saul, Shura, Aging: An Album of People Growing Old, New York, John Wiley and Sons, 1974.

U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Working With Older People: A Guide to Practice, 4 vols., Rockville, Maryland, Health Resources Administration, 1972.

Marital Status and Living Arrangements of Older Persons

Carp, Francis M. and Wanda M. Burnett, Patterns of Living and Housing of Middle-aged and Older People, Washington, Public Health Service Publication, number 1496, 1966.

Cull, John G. and Richard E. Hardy, eds., The Neglected Older American: Social and Rehabilitation Services (American Lectures in Social Rehabilitation Psychology), Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1973.

Galton, Lawrence, Don't Give Up on an Aging Parent, New York, Crown, 1975.

Gubrium, Jaber F., The Myth of the Golden Years: A Socio-Environmental Theory of Aging, Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1973.

Lopata, Helena, Widowhood in an American City, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Schenkman, 1972.

Pastalan, Leon A. and Daniel H. Carson, Spatial Behavior of Older People, Ann Arbor, Michigan, University of Michigan and Wayne State University, Institute of Gerontology, 1970.

Silverman, Phyllis et. al., Helping Each Other in Widowhood, New York, Health Science Publishing Corp., 1974.

Strugnell, Cecile, Adjustment to Widowhood and Some Related Problems: An Annotated Selective Bibliography, New York, Health Science Publishing Corp., 1974.

Economic Security

Askwith, Herbert, Your Retirement: How to Plan It and How to Enjoy It to the Fullest, New York, Hart Publishing Co., 1974.

Chen, Yung-Ping, Income (Background Paper for the 1971 White House Conference on Aging), Washington, D.C., Administration on Aging, 1970.

Krepes, Juanita M., ed., Employment, Income, and Retirement Problems of the Aged. Durham, North Carolina, Duke University Press, 1963.

Liebers, Arthur, How to Start a Profitable Retirement Business, 3rd ed., New York, Pilot Books, 1973.

Peterson, David A., The Crisis in Retirement Finance: The Views of Older Americans (Occasional Paper in Gerontology number 9), Ann Arbor, Michigan, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan and Wayne State University, 1971.

Small, Samuel, Starting a Business After Fifty, rev. ed., New York, Pilot Books, 1974.

U. S. News and World Report, editors, Plan Your Retirement Now So You Won't Be Sorry Later, New York, Simon and Schuster, 1974.

Work and Retirement

Arnold, S., Ready or Not: A Study Manual for Retirement, New York, Manpower Education Institute, 1974.

Bowman, D. L., How Pre-retirement Planning Works: A Guide for Program Planners, Des Moines, Iowa, Drake University, Pre-retirement Planning Center, 1972.

Buckley, Joseph C., (edited by Henry Schmidt), The Retirement Handbook: A Complete Guide to Planning Your Future, 6th ed., New York, Harper and Row, 1977.

Collins, Thomas, The Complete Guide to Retirement, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1972.

Corrick, Frank, Preparing for Your Retirement Years: A Question and Answer Guide Showing How to Achieve Independence by Properly Planning for Retirement, New York, Pilot Books, 1972.

Giudice, Liliane, The Gift of Retirement, Richmond, Virginia, John Knox, 1973.

Schulz, James, Retirement (Background Paper for the 1971 White House Conference on Aging), Washington, D.C. Administration on Aging, 1970.

Streib, Gordon F. and Clement J. Schneider, Retirement in American Society--Impact and Process, Ithaca, New York, Cornell University Press, 1971.

Swartz, Melvin J., Don't Die Broke: A Guide to Secure Retirement, New York, Macmillan, 1975.

Health

Adams, J. Crawford, Arthritis and Back Pain: A Guide to the Understanding and Treatment of Arthritis and Back Pain, Baltimore, University Park Press, 1972.

Butler, Robert N. and Myrna I. Lewis, Sex After Sixty: A Guide for Men and Women for Their Later Years, New York, Harper and Row, 1976.

Coe, Rodney M. and Henry P. Brehm, Preventive Health Care for Adults: A Study of Medical Practice, New Haven, Connecticutt, College and University Press, 1972.

Long, Janet M., ed., Caring for and Caring About Elderly People: A Guide to the Rehabilitative Approach, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, J. B. Lippincott, 1974.

Oyer, Herbert J., ed., Communication for the Hearing Handicapped: An International Perspective, Baltimore, University Park Press, 1976.

Stonecypher, D. D., Getting Older and Staying Young: A Doctor's Prescription for Continuing Vitality in Later Life, New York, Norton, 1974.

Education

Brown, Eleanor Frances, Library Service to the Disadvantaged, Metuchen, New Jersey, Scarecrow Press, 1971.

Hendrickson, Andrew, ed., A Manual on Planning Educational Programs for Older Adults, Tallahassee, Florida, Florida State University, Department of Adult Education, 1973.

Korim, Andrew S., Older Americans and Community Colleges: A Guide for Program Implementation, Washington, D.C., American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, 1974.

Lyman, Helen Huguenor, Library Materials and Service to the Adult New Reader, Chicago, American Library Association, 1972.

University of Texas at Austin, Division of Extension, Industrial and Business Training Bureau, Adult Learning (It Can Happen in the Library, too): A Bibliography of ABE Materials for Public Libraries, Austin, Texas, University of Texas at Austin, 1975. Available from:
University of Texas at Austin
Division of Extension
Industrial and Business Training Bureau
Austin, TX 78712

University of Texas at Austin, Division of Extension, Industrial and Business Training Bureau, Establishing Library Learning Centers for Adult Basic Education, Austin, Texas, University of Texas at Austin, 1975. For address see above.

Dependency

Hoffman, Adeline M., Daily Needs and Interests of Older People, Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1970.

Lopata, Helena, "Loneliness: Forms and Components," Social Problems, XVII (Fall, 1969), 248-261.

May, Elizabeth, et. al., Independent Living for the Handicapped and the Elderly, Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1974.

Nassau, Jon Baron, Choosing a Nursing Home, New York, Funk and Wagnalls, 1975.

Osterbind, Carter C., ed., Independent Living for Older People (Institute of Gerontology Series volume 21), Gainesville, Florida, University Presses of Florida, 1972.

Resources in Aging, The End of the Line - A Simulation Game, developed by Frederick L. Goodman, manual by Ansell T. Horn, 1975.
The full kit with materials available from:
Urban Associates
P. O. Box 2188
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

Zubek, J. P., Sensory Deprivation: Fifteen Years of Research, New York, Appleton Crofts, 1969.

Nutrition

Howell, Sandra C., Nutrition and Aging: A Monograph for Practitioners, Washington, D.C., Administration on Aging, 1969.

Kramer, Mary and Margaret Spader, Contemporary Meal Management, New York, John Wiley and Sons, 1972.

Stare, Frederick J. and Marger McWilliams, Living Nutrition, New York, John Wiley and Sons, 1973.

Todhunter, E. Neige, Nutrition (Background Paper for the 1971 White House Conference on Aging), Washington, D.C., Administration on Aging, 1970.

U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Nutrition for the Elderly, Washington, D. C., Government Printing Office, 1973.

Recreation and Leisure

DeVries, Herbert A., Fitness After Fifty, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1974.

Fish, Harriet U. and E. Fish, Activity Programs for Senior Citizens, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1971.

Frankel, Lawrence J. and Betty Byrd Richard, Be Alive as Long as You Live: Mobility Exercises for the Older Person, Charleston, West Virginia, Preventicare Publications, 1978.

Gould, Elaine, Crafts for the Elderly, Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1971.

Jacobs, Bella, Involving Men: A Challenge for Senior Centers, Washington, D.C., National Council on Aging, 1974.

Lucas, Carol, Recreation Activity Development for the Aging in Homes, Hospitals, and Nursing Homes, Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1974.

Merrill, Toni, Social Clubs for the Aging, Including Twenty-four Programs for Nine Clubs, volume 1, Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1973.

Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. Regional Office on Aging, Develop a Senior Center in Your Community: A Step-by-Step Guide.
Available from: Panhandle Regional Planning Commission
Regional Office on Aging
P. O. Box 9257
Amarillo, TX 79105

Periodicals and Newsletters

Ageing International.
International Federation on Ageing
1909 K Street, N. W., Room 512
Washington, D.C. 20049

Aging.
U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Government Printing Office

Dynamic Maturity.
American Association of Retired Persons

Facts and Figures on Older Americans.
U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Administration on Aging

The Gerontologist.
Gerontological Society

Memorandum.
The Senate Special Committee on Aging

Modern Maturity.
American Association of Retired Persons

Perspective on Aging.
National Council on the Aging

Retirement Life.
National Association of Retired Federal Employees

Retirement Living.
Harvest Years Publishing Company, Inc.
150 E. 58th Street
New York, N. Y. 10022

Social Security Bulletin.
U. S. Department Of Health, Education, and Welfare
Social Security Administration
Government Printing Office

Bibliography of Bibliographies

American Foundation for the Blind, Aids and Appliances for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1966-1977, 22nd ed., New York, American Foundation for the Blind, 1976.

American Foundation for the Blind, Catalog of Publications, New York, American Foundation for the Blind, annual. (free)

American Foundation for the Blind, Directory of Agencies Serving the Visually Handicapped in the United States, 19th ed., New York, American Foudnation for the Blind, 1975.

American Foundation for the Blind, International Catalog of Aids and Appliances for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons, New York, American Foundation for the Blind, 1974.

Appalachian Adult Education Center. Bureau of Research and Development, Morehead, Kentucky. Morehead State University. Library Service Guides.
A series of guides developed to aid librarians in expanding their services to disadvantaged and under-educated adults. The thirty-give plus guides cover such areas as The Library as a Community Information and Referral Center, The Assessment of Community Information and Service Needs, Planning the Expansion of Library Services to Disadvantaged Adults, etc.

The Baker and Taylor Guide to Books on Aging and Retirement. This brochure lists materials of interest to the aging, as well as to their families, professionals, and students on subjects of aging and longevity; death, dying, bereavement; economics and employment; health and nutrition; retirement: planning; and large type books. Available free from:
The Baker and Taylor Companies
Drawer Z
Momence, Illinois 60954

Balkema, John B., The Aged in Minority Groups: A Bibliography, Washington, D.C., National Council on the Aging.

Balkema, John B., Housing and Living Arrangements for Older People: A Bibliography, Washington, D.C, National Council on the Aging, 1972.

Ethel Percy Andrus Center, Author/Title and Subject Catalogs of the Ethel Percy Andrus Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 2 vol., Boston, G. K. Hall and Co., 1976.

J. B. Lippincott Co., Caring for the Long-Term Patient.
A selection of books on subjects about the long-term patient, such as nursing practice; pharmacology/drug therapy; nutrition/diet therapy; anatomy/physiology; administration; etc.
Available free from: J. G. Lippincott Co.
Division of Higher Education
East Washington Square
Philadelphia, PA 19105

Kramer, Molly W., A Selected Bibliography on the Aging, and the Role of the Library in Serving Them (Occasional Papers Series, no. 107), Champaign, Illinois, University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, 1973.
The bibliography includes areas of education, retirement, finances, housing, leisure time, as well as a section on the specific role of the library in services for the aging.
Available from: Occasional Papers
Publication Office - 215 Armory Bldg.
University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science
Champaign, ILL 61820

Library of Congress. Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Aids for Handicapped Readers, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1972. (free)

National Council on the Aging, Current Literature on Aging.
A quarterly subject guide to selected publications in the field of aging and related areas.

National Council on the Aging, A General Bibliography on Aging, compiled by John B. Balkema, Washington, D.C., National Council on the Aging, revised periodically.

R. R. Bowker, Large Type Books in Print, 3rd ed., New York, R. R. Bowker, 1977.

Superintendent of Documents, Monthly Catalog of U. S. Government Publications, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, monthly.
Lists all U. S. government publications that are currently in print.

Superintendent of Documents, Selected U. S. Government Publications, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, monthly. (free)
A selective list of materials that will be most popular with the general public.

Superintendent of Documents, Talking Book Topics, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, bi-monthly. (free)

U. S. Consumer Product Information Center, Consumer Information, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1973.
An index of selected federal publications of consumer interest, arranged by subject.

Waite, Marian, comp., Aging: A Bibliography of Materials Suitable for Public Library Collections, Dallas, Dallas Public Library, 1976.
A list of materials for general reading, planning, professional reading, theory and research, periodicals and newsletters, and lists and catalogs.
Available from: The Dallas Public Library
Community Education Office
1954 Commerce
Dallas, TX 75201

Specialized Materials

Large Print Publishers

Baker and Taylor Companies
Drawer Z
Momence, IL 60954

G. K. Hall and Company
70 Lincoln Street
Boston, Mass. 02111

Keith Jennison Books/Franklin Watts, Inc.
Division of Grolier, Inc.
575 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Lancer Books, Inc.
Educational Department
1560 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10036

Ulverscroft Large Print Books
Oscar B. Stiskin
P. O. Box 3055
Stamford, CN 06905

Audio Visual Resources

Allyn, Mildred V., comp., About Aging: A Catalogue of Films, rev. ed., Los Angeles, The Ethel Percy Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California Press, 1975.

American Printing House for the Blind
1839 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
Sells books on records that it produces for the talking book program of the Library of Congress as well as spoken word periodicals and tape and cassette recorders.

Braille Circulating Library
2823 West Grace Street
Richmond, VA 23221
Lends devotional and evangelistic records for blind and physically handicapped.

Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20542
Through a system of regional libraries across the United States, the Division lends spoken work books and magazines, as well as players for them.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult Education
Syracuse University
107 Roney Lane
Syracuse, N.Y. 13210

Gerontological Film Collection, The North Texas State University Gerontological Film Collection
Coordinator, Gerontological Film Collection
Main Library
North Texas State University
Denton, TX 76203
Films are free on loan in-state and for rent out-of-state

Jewish Braille Institute of America
110 East 30th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
Lends books of Jewish interest in Yiddish, Hebrew, and English.

National Multimedia Center for Adult Basic Education
Adult Continuing Education Center
14 Normal Avenue
Montclair State College
Upper Montclair, N.J. 07043

Tapes for the Blind, Inc.
Suite 2
12007 South Paramount Boulevard
Downey, CA 90242
Organization is sponsored by the Lions Club and sells blank open-reel and cassette tapes at low prices to blind and physica-ly handicapped persons.

U. S. Administration on Aging, AoA Catalog of Films on Aging, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1973.
A catalog of films, filmstrips, slides, and plays from the Administration on Aging covering aging in general, health care, preventive health services, rehabilitation, income, living arrangements, and retirement. Each listing gives a brief content, technical description, producer, and availability (purchase, rental, or free loan).

Organizations, Associations, and Government Agencies

ACTION
Older Volunteers Programs
806 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20525

Action for Independent Maturity
1909 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20049

Adult Education Association
810 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Adult Education Association of the U.S.A.
1225 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

American Foundation for the Blind
15 West 16th Street
New York, N.Y. 10011

American Printing House for the Blind
P. O. Box 6085
1839 Frankfort
Louisville, KY 40206

Appalachian Adult Education Center
Bureau for Research and Development
Morehead State University, UPO 1353
Morehead, KY 40351

Association of Hospital and Institution Libraries
American Library Association
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20542

Gerontological Society
Suite 520
One Dupont Circle
Washington, D.C. 20036

Gray Panthers
6342 Greene Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144

International Federation on Ageing
1909 K Street, NW., Room 512
Washington, D.C. 20049

National Association of Retired Federal Employees
1533 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

National Center for Voluntary Action
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

National Council of Senior Citizens
1511 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

National Council on the Aging
1828 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

National Paralegal Institute
Suite 600
2000 P Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

National Retired Teachers Association/
American Association of Retired Persons
1909 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Public Affairs Pamphlets
381 Park Avenue, South
New York, N.Y. 10016

Public Documents Distribution Center
Pueblo, CO 81009

Superintendent of Documents
U. S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
Washington, D.C. 20252

U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Administration on Aging
Washington, D.C. 20201

U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Public Health Publications
Washington, D.C. 20201

U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Social and Rehabilitation Service
Washington, D.C. 20201

U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Social Security Administration
330 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Public libraries in the United States, of which the small and medium-sized libraries make up the great majority, have the obligation to provide materials, information, and services to all the people within their communities and service areas. A sizeable portion of these people are elderly, and to a great extent public libraries have given their attention and energies to the child, teenager, and working adult, while by in large ignoring the elderly and their special needs. This lack of service to the elderly is made even more glaring by the knowledge that many of the unique qualities of the library would so easily lend themselves to use by this group of people. These qualities include ease of access, being centrally located within the community, free use for people on a limited income, a variety of materials which may be used within a safe and friendly environment or taken home for leisure time pleasure, educational materials for continued learning, programs for pleasure and public interest, an environment in which to meet old and make new friends, as well as reference materials, information, and the knowledge of how to get information to help meet their needs and to assist in solving their problems.

There are other features of the public library that make it uniquely qualified to serve the elderly, but why it should be serving them may best be expressed in the words of Molly Shapiro, a sixty-seven year old quadraplegic in an extended care facility. Wheelchair bound, unable to even lift her fingers to turn a page, with the help of staff and volunteers she reads books.

> Were you to ask, I would say that what food and oxygen is to the body, reading means to me. I would also tell you that the mind that God has so generously given to me must be kept in trim, so I have to feed, nourish, and exercise it, and reading is a most pleasant way to do this. The rewards are many and I want to tell you what some of them are.
>
> I can visit a distant land, where it takes but a moment to get to, taking in its beauties and meeting its people. These people become my friends as I follow their lives, and I am privileged to share their thoughts and feelings. I know their joys and sufferings, I go on meeting new people all the time, am never bored, and can't wait to see what is going to happen as the story unfolds and to visit the picturesque places with them.
>
> I am never alone and can choose any part of the world I want to, or I can stay in my own neighborhood. I am able to unravel the threads of history, or marvel at the new world of tomorrow. Sometimes I cringe with the victims of war and other times I enjoy the peaceful existence of life on a quiet farm. I may even join a great, rollicking party, without even having to dress up, and go as I am -- to join the festivities or stay looking on -- no one objects. I even sneak into the kitchen sometimes and see the chef preparing the mysterious dishes being served outside in the beautifully decorated party room, and he reveals the recipe for the canape' that the guests are raving about.
>
> However, the only books that I will allow my mind to digest are the ones that contain the most selected material. This rare, precious jewel that I have been blessed with -- my mind, I want to keep highly polished and glowing, so I will only nourish it with the highest protein writing-food that gifted

> authors have to offer. The pleasures that this fountain of knowledge and experiences gives is never-ending. What can I say but that books are my very life and I can't wait for the day to begin again to continue the magic that is reading? (1, p. 469).

This is what public libraries have to give. What librarians have to do is to begin providing services for the Molly Shapiros and other elderly within their communities, and to seek out the unserved and let them know that the public library is for them also, and has much to offer.

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Shapiro, Molly, "What Food and Oxygen is to the Body, Reading Means to Me," Wilson Library Bulletin, XLV (January, 1971), 488.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

American Library Association. Adult Services Division. The Library's Responsibility to the Aging. Chicago, American Library Association, 1964.

Atchley, Robert C., The Social Forces in Later Life: An Introduction to Social Gerontology. Belmont, California, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1972.

Henderson, Jeanne J., editor, The Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information. 18th ed., New York, R. R. Bowker, 1973.

Mauney, James D., Jr., Aging in American Society: An Examination of Concepts and Issues. Ann Arbor, Michigan, The University of Michigan - Wayne State University, 1973.

Public Library Association. Standards Committee. Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems 1966. Chicago, American Library Association.

Rolander, Elizabeth, Expanding Library Services to the Elderly. (Public Library Training Institutes Library Service Guide No. 32). Morehead, Kentucky, Appalachian Adult Education Center, 1974.

Articles

American Library Association. Reference and Adult Services Division. Committee on Library Services to an Aging Population. "Guidelines for Library Service to an Aging Population," RQ. III (Spring, 1973), 237-239.

Casey, Genevieve M., "Public Library Service to the Aging," American Libraries. II (October, 1971), 999-1004.

_____. "Staffing Library Services to the Aging," Library Trends. XXI (January, 1973), 413-430.

Daffern, Beverly A., "Patterns of Library Service to Residents of Senior Citizen Apartment Complexes," ARIL Quarterly. XIII (Summer/Fall, 1973), 35-42.

Ferstl, Kenneth I., "On Serving Older Americans: Some Perspectives for Librarians," Focus on Indiana Libraries, XXIX (Spring/Summer, 1975), 7+, 23.

Marakos, Peter G., "Promoting Library Services for the Elderly," PLA Bulletin, XXIX (July, 1974), 155-157.

Reed, Emily W., "Library Programs and Activities: Serving the Aging Directly," Library Trends, XXI (January, 1973), 404-412.

_____, "Survey of Library Programs Under the Older Americans Act," ALA Adult Services Division Newsletter, VI (Spring, 1969), 37-39.

Schmidt, Leslyn, "Report On White House Conference On Aging," AHIL Quarterly, XII (Spring/Summer, 1972), 12-19.

Shapiro, Molly, "What Food and Oxygen is to the Body, Reading Means to Me," Wilson Library Bulletin, XLV (January, 1971), 469.

South, Joan-Anne and Henry Drennan, "The 1971 White House Conference on Aging," Library Trends, XXI (January, 1973), 441-458.

Stewart, Nathaniel, "Library Service to the Old," Library Journal, LXII (March 15, 1938), 218-222.

Vainstein, Rose, "The Library and the Senior Citizen," Illinois Libraries, XLIII (April, 1961), 264-270.

White, Hilda W., "The Elderly Poor 1971: Poems," AHIL Quarterly, XI' (Spring/Summer, 1972), 15.

Reports

Cleveland Public Library, National Survey of Library Services to the Aging Final Report, Washington, Bureau of Libraries and Educational Technology, 1971.

Public Documents

U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Facts About Older Americans 1975, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1975.